



Texas Department of Health

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December 18, 1984

Mr. Robert E. McPherson
Governor's Planning Director
Regional Planning/TRACS Section
P. O. Box 13561, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711

Subject: New EPA Lead Superfund Sites
North Cavalcade Street Site, Houston;
South Cavalcade Street Site, Houston;
Koppers Company, Inc., West Third Street Site,
Texarkana
Bowie and Harris Counties
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Governor's Office of Regional Planning/TRACS Section
EIS # TX-84-11-10-0022-50

Dear Mr. McPherson:

Copies of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) letter, dated October 25, 1984 and associated document were reviewed for their public and environmental health implications. The document, among other things, provides site specific information and the description of the first phase activities which is common to each of the sites.

On October 2, 1984 the EPA listed the proposed updates to the National Priorities List. The EPA will take the lead in studying and cleaning up three of these new sites. The sites are: North Cavalcade Street site, South Cavalcade Street site and Koppers Co., Inc. (Texarkana Plant) site.

The Cavalcade Street sites in Houston were separately operated wood treating facilities until the early 1960's. Soil and shallow groundwater at both sites are contaminated with creosote and similar compounds. About 10,000 people within three miles of the sites use groundwater as a source of their drinking water.

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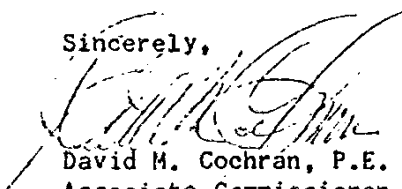
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The 62-acre Koppers site in Texarkana was used for wood processing until 1961. Soil and groundwater at the site are contaminated with creosote, pentachlorophenol, arsenic, and similar compounds. Part of the site is now occupied by a church and 78 homes. About 150 people within a half mile radius of this site use groundwater as a source for their drinking water.

The Texas Department of Health (TDH) supports the subject New EPA Lead Superfund Sites efforts; this Department supports any efforts which are intended to protect the public and environmental health from uncontrolled hazardous wastes.

We appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on the subject New EPA Lead Superfund Sites.

Sincerely,



David M. Cochran, P.E.
Associate Commissioner for Environmental
and Consumer Health Protection

MWR:fhk

cc: Public Health Region 7/10, TDH
Public Health Region 11, TDH
Bureau of Solid Waste Management, TDH
Occupational Health Program, TDH
Water Hygiene Division, TDH
Texarkana-Bowie County Health Department
Harris County Health Department

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